

In the specification:

Page 2, amend the paragraph in lines 3-4 as follows:

The present invention relates to a method of producing polyurethane grinding and polishing pads and ~~similar articles and to an article~~ a pad produced thereby.

Page 2, amend the paragraph in lines 4-8 as follows:

It is known to produce ~~articles composed of layers of polyurethane, for example polyurethane pads for grinding and polishing.~~ Some solution for producing grinding and polishing pads are disclosed for example in U.S. patents no. 4,692,199; 5,257,478; 5,900,164. It is believed that the known solutions can be improved.

Page 3, amend the paragraph in lines 2-5 as follows:

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a method of producing polyurethane grinding and polishing pads and ~~similar articles and an article~~ a pad produced thereby, which is a further improvement of the existing methods and articles.

Page 3, amend the paragraph in lines 6-14 as follows:

In keeping with these objects and with others which will become apparent hereinafter, one feature of the present invention resides, briefly stated, in a method of producing polyurethane grinding and polishing pads and other articles, comprising the steps of providing at least one polyurethane layer having a first curing agent; providing a second polymer layer having a second curing agent; providing a connecting layer between the first and second layers with said first curing agent as in the first polyurethane layer; and subjected the layers to a thermal treatment so that the same first curing agent migrates from the connecting layer to the said first polyurethane layer and vice versa providing a body which is substantially hard to form a hard backing for the pad and has a first curing agent; providing a working layer which is optionally provided with abrasive and has a second curing agent; providing a connecting layer between said body and said working layer so as to connect said working layer to said body, which said connecting layer has a third curing agent; selecting a quantity of at least one of said first curing agent and said second curing agent which is reduced when compared with a conventional amount; providing in said connecting layer an amount of said third curing layer which substantially corresponds to said amount by which at least one of said first and second curing agents is reduced; and subjecting said body, said working layer and said connecting layer to a thermal treatment so that said third curing agent from said

connecting layer migrates into said at least one of said body and said working layer so as to bring the amount of said at least one of said first and second curing agents to the conventional amount.

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 as follows:

~~The invention also involves providing at least one polyurethane layer having a first curing agent; providing a second polymer layer having a second curing agent; providing a connecting layer between the first and second layers with said first curing agent as in the first polyurethane layers; and subjected the layers to a thermal treatment so that the same first curing agent migrates from the connecting layer to the said first polyurethane layers and vice versa~~ a polyurethane grinding or polishing pad, comprising a body which is substantially hard to form a hard backing for the pad and has a first curing agent; a working layer which is optionally provided with abrasive and has a second curing agent; a connecting layer between said body and said working layer so as to connect said working layer to said body, which said connecting layer has a third curing agent; with a quantity of at least one of said first curing agent and said second curing agent which is reduced when compared with a conventional amount; and in said connecting layer with an amount of said third curing layer which substantially corresponds said amount by which at least one of said first and second curing agents is reduced so that when said body, said

working layer and said connecting layer are subjected to a thermal treatment  
said third curing agent layer from said connecting layer migrates into said at  
least one of said body and said working layer so as to bring the amount of said  
at least one of said first and second curing agents to a conventional amount.

Page 4, amend the paragraph in lines 4-6 as follows:

When, ~~for example~~ a polishing pad is produced in accordance with the present invention, its layers are reliably connected with one another to provide a solid composite article.

Page 5, amend the paragraph in lines 2-6 as follows:

Figure 1 is a view showing a grinding or polishing pad produced by a new method in accordance with the present invention and including a body, a connecting layer, and a working layer composed of polyurethane; and

~~Figure 2 is a view showing a multi-layered article produced in accordance with the present invention.~~

Page 6, amend the paragraph | lines 2-6 as follows:

A method of producing an article composed of two main layers, of which one layer is composed of a polyurethane pad in accordance with the present invention is shown in Figure 1. The pad here includes a body which is identified with reference numeral 1, a working layer which is identified with reference numeral 2, and a connecting layer which is identified with reference numeral 3.

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 as follows:

In accordance with the present invention, the amount of curing agent in the layers ~~1 and 2~~ body 1 and the working layer 2 is reduced for example to 75-80% of conventionally used amounts. The same curing agent, for example MOCA is introduced into the connecting layer 3 in the amount, by which the amount of the curing agent is reduced in the layers ~~1 and 2~~ body 1 and the working layer 2 to be connected. If the layer body 1 is not composed of polyurethane, the amount of its curing agent can be retained the same, while the amount of MOCA in the layer working layer 2 is reduced to 75-80%, and the connecting layer 3 is provided with MOCA corresponding to the missing 25-20%.

Page 9, amend the paragraph in lines 7-14 as follows:

After the ~~layers 1 and 2~~body 1 and the working layer 2 are formed of an initial material, they are placed over one another with interposition of the connecting layer and together introduced into mold for thermal treatment. During the thermal treatment the curing agent or MOCA migrates from the connecting layer 3 into ~~layers 1 and 2~~body 1 and the working layer 2 and vice versa if the ~~layers 1 and 2~~body 1 and the working layer 2 are composed of polyurethane. If the ~~layer~~body 1 is composed not of polyurethane but instead of ebonite, then MOCA migrates between the ~~layers~~working layer 2 and ~~the~~ connecting layer 3 and from the connecting layer 3 into the ~~layer~~body 1, while the curing agent of the ~~layer~~body 1 (for example sulfur) migrates into the connecting layer 3.

Please delete the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 in its entirety.